Appl. No.: 10/808,792
Amdt. dated: September 14, 2006
Reply to Office Action of: August 3, 2006

PATENT

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (canceled)

2.   (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1, further~~ A method for operating a storage system configured to provide a Write Once and Read Many (WORM) function, the method comprising:

receiving a first command at a storage subsystem from a host;

storing at least a portion of the first command on a WORM storage device coupled to the storage subsystem, wherein the WORM storage device is used to verify the WORM function of the storage system;

receiving a second command at the storage subsystem;

examining the second command using a command filter, the filter being provided with a predetermined rule for filtering selected types of commands; and

storing at least a portion of the second command if the second command satisfies the predetermined rule.

3.   (canceled)

4.   (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the command filter is configured to filter at least commands relating to ERASE, FORMAT, and WRITE operations.

5.   (currently amended) The method of claim [[3]] 4, wherein the command is a Command Descriptor Block.

6.   (canceled)

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7.   (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the storage subsystem is a disk array unit having a storage area that is defined as a WORM storage area, wherein the subsystem configuration file is used to verify that data on a given storage device have not been changed or to identify a physical address of a logical volume during auditing.

8.   (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the command filter is configured to filter commands directed to a predetermined storage area in the storage subsystem, the predetermined storage area being defined as a WORM storage area.

9.   (currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 2, wherein at least portions of all commands are stored in the WORM device.

10.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further A method for operating a storage system configured to provide a Write Once and Read Many (WORM) function, the method comprising:
        receiving a first command at a storage subsystem from a host;
        storing at least a portion of the first command on a WORM storage device coupled to the storage subsystem, wherein the WORM storage device is used to verify the WORM function of the storage system;
        associating a serial number to the first command; and
        storing the serial number in the WORM storage device.

11.   (original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:
        associating a timestamp to the first command; and
        storing the timestamp in the WORM storage device.

12.   (original) The method of claim 10, wherein the WORM storage device includes a plurality of records representing a plurality of commands received by the storage subsystem, each of the commands being associated with a serial number, the serial numbers being used to sort the commands according to a given order prior to performing an audit of the storage subsystem.

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13.   (previously presented) A method for providing a data archival function, comprising:

storing at least portions of commands directed to a storage subsystem in a Write Once and Read Many (WORM) storage device, the commands being of a type that affects a content of data stored in a storage area of the storage subsystem; and

associating a serial number to each of the commands, the serial number being useful for sorting the commands in a given order,

wherein the WORM storage device includes a plurality of command records, the command records including the at least portions of the commands and the serial numbers,

wherein the command records are useful for verifying whether or not a storage subsystem has maintained a WORM integrity.

14.   (canceled)

15.   (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the commands directed to the storage subsystems are filtered according to a predetermined rule.

16.   (original) The method of claim 15, wherein the commands are filtered by examining operation codes associated with the commands or Logical Unit Numbers associated with the commands.

17.-34.   (canceled)